

Dated: January 11, 1995.

**Susan K. Feldman,**

*Committee Management Officer, NIH.*

[FR Doc. 95-1091 Filed 1-17-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140-01-M

**Notice of Meeting; Chairpersons, Boards of Scientific Counselors for Institutes, Centers and Divisions at NIH**

Notice is hereby given of a meeting scheduled by the Deputy Director for Intramural Research at the National Institutes of Health with the chairpersons of the Boards of Scientific Counselors. The Boards of Scientific Counselors are an advisory group to the Scientific Directors of the Intramural Research Programs at the NIH. This meeting will take place 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on January 23, 1995, at the NIH, 9000 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, MD, Building 31, Conference Room #6. The meeting will include a discussion of the new Manual Chapter 3005 governing the process of reviewing intramural research programs and scientists. For additional information, contact Ms. Audrey Boyle at the Office of Intramural Research, NIH, Building 1, Room 114, Telephone (301) 496-1921 or Fax (301) 402-4273.

Dated: December 30, 1994.

**Ruth Kirschstein,**

*Deputy Director, NIH.*

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**DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT**

**Office of the Assistant Secretary for Housing—Federal Housing Commissioner**

**Office of the Assistant Secretary for Public and Indian Housing**

[Docket No. N-95-3853; FR-3833-N-01]

**Preferences for Admission to Assisted Housing; Preference for Working Families—Notice of Statutory Amendment**

**AGENCY:** Office of the Assistant Secretary for Housing—Federal Housing Commissioner; and Office of the Assistant Secretary for Public and Indian Housing, HUD.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** This notice advises that sections 6(c)(4)(A)(ii) and (8)(d)(1)(A)(ii) of the U.S. Housing Act of 1937 were amended by the HUD Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 1995 to provide a discretionary local preference for

admission to public housing and HUD-assisted housing for "families that include one or more adult members who are employed." The amendment by the HUD Appropriations Act provides that this preference for working families "shall be effective only during fiscal year 1995."

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For the public housing and Section 8 Moderate Rehabilitation programs, Edward Whipple, Director, Occupancy Division, Office of Public Housing, (202) 708-0744 (voice); (202) 708-0850 (TDD).

For the Section 8 programs except for the Moderate Rehabilitation program, Barbara Hunter, Acting Director, Planning and Procedures Division, Office of Multifamily Housing, Office of Housing (202) 708-3944 (voice); (202) 708-4594 (TDD).

None of these telephone numbers is toll-free. All of the individuals listed are located at the Department of Housing and Urban Development, 451 Seventh Street, SW, Washington, DC 20410.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**I. Background**

Sections 6(c)(4)(A)(ii) and (8)(d)(1)(A)(ii) of the U.S. Housing Act of 1937 (1937 Act) (42 U.S.C. 1437d and 42 U.S.C. 1437f) provide an illustrative list of local preferences that may be given by housing authorities and project owners in selecting residents for public housing and section 8 existing housing. The Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act, 1995 (Pub. L. 103-327, approved September 28, 1994, 108 Stat. 2315) (HUD Appropriations Act for FY 1995) amended these sections of the 1937 Act to add an additional, illustrative local preference for "families that include one or more adult members who are employed."

For public housing, section 6(c)(4)(A)(ii) of the 1937 Act, as amended by the HUD Appropriations Act of FY 1995, provides in relevant part that:

[E]xcept for projects or portions of projects specifically designated for elderly families with respect to which the Secretary has determined that application of this subparagraph would result in excessive delays in meeting the housing need of such families, the establishment of tenant criteria which \* \* \*

(ii) for any remaining units to be made available for occupancy give preference in accordance with a system of preferences established by the public housing agency in writing and after public hearings to respond to local housing needs and priorities, which may include \* \* \* (V) assisting families that

include one or more adult members who are employed.

For section 8 existing housing, section (8)(d)(1)(A)(ii) of the 1937 Act, as amended by the HUD Appropriations Act for FY 1995, provides in relevant part that:

[T]he selection of tenants for such units shall be the function of the owner, subject to the provisions of the annual contributions contract between the Secretary and the agency, except that the tenant selection criteria used by the owner \* \* \*

(ii) for any remaining assistance in any 1-year period give preference to families who qualify under a system of local preferences established by the public housing agency in writing and after public hearing to respond to local housing needs and priorities, which may include \* \* \*

(V) assisting families that include one or more adult members who are employed.

The Department notes that these amendments only apply to local preference admissions and *not* to admissions covered by Federal preference.

The HUD Appropriations Act also provides that this preference "shall be effective only during fiscal year 1995."

The preference added by the Congress is consistent with the Department's final rule entitled, "Preferences for Admission to Assisted Housing," published on July 18, 1994 (59 FR 36616), and its final rule entitled "Section 8 Certificate and Voucher Programs Conforming Rule: Admissions," also published on July 18, 1994 (59 FR 36662). The preamble to the "Preferences for Admission" final rule stated that:

The Department is convinced that housing agencies must have the flexibility to give preference to working families to assure diversity in the residency of projects and to include families who can serve as role models for other families. (59 FR 36618)

The preamble noted, however, that the preference for working families may not be administered in a way that will violate the legal prohibitions against discrimination. (59 FR 33619)

The purpose of this notice is to advise housing authorities and project owners of the amendment to sections 6(c)(4)(A)(ii) and (8)(d)(1)(A)(ii) of the 1937 Act made by the HUD Appropriations Act for FY 1995.

Dated: January 10, 1995.

**Jeanne K. Engel,**

*General Deputy Assistant Secretary for Housing—Federal Housing Commissioner.*

**Michael B. Janis,**

*General Deputy Assistant Secretary for Public and Indian Housing.*

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